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# Integrated Asset Integrity Management for HSSE, Sustainability, and Operational Excellence

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28–29 APRIL 2026 | BANGKOK, THAILAND



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**Integrated Asset Integrity Management for HSSE,  
Sustainability, and Operational Excellence**



## **Internal Corrosion Monitoring - Enhanced Safety Through Innovation**

KHAIRI KADIR

AXESS-CORROSION





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## About Us

### Purpose

- ◎ To innovate safety and develop end user confidence and trust

### Value

- ◎ Uniquely positioned to supply products and services that can complement, integrate and support projects from the design stage, through to maintenance and data retrieval services and analysis

### Experience

- ◎ A team comprised of experts in monitoring hardware and systems



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# Global Incidents

- High pressure retrieval tools and portable isolations are required for device changeouts under pressure
- Incidents reported globally range from loss of containment, severe injury and fatalities
- Life extension of assets, diluting field experience, and growing concerns around intrusive monitoring techniques called for innovation to solve several problems
- We release the Guard having consulted with a major operator on the design and piloting it successfully

**LEARNING FROM INCIDENTS ACTION ALERT**

09P-AC201204 | All Shell Business | August 2012

Only for distribution to Shell employees. Shell contractors, Shell operated joint ventures and, with the consent of the Shell Shareholder Representatives, to non-Shell operated joint ventures. Refer to #41LegalGuidance if you wish to send this Alert to other parties.

**Retrieval of Broken/Corroded Coupons, Probes and Quills from Pressurized Lines by Means of Pressure-Balanced Tools**

Following an incident at an offshore platform, the Incident Alert **Retrieval of Corrosion Coupons from Pressurized Lines** (Ref: 09P-AC201204) was issued in May 2012. While the incident investigation was ongoing, it was recommended that consideration be given to stopping all retrieval operations on pressurized lines until findings from the incident investigation could be distilled and communicated via a subsequent IT alert.

The IT Action Alert now contains the findings from the investigation and includes recommendations for the conditional resumption of retrieval operations.

**Target audience for this alert**

- Personnel responsible for well/managing corrosion inspection work
- Maintenance and Inspection Managers
- Asset Managers

**What happened**

On May 2, 2012, in a Non-Shell Operated Joint Venture, a fatality occurred after an operator was struck by the sheave of a retrieval tool he was handling (Picture 1 and Picture 2). In addition, the tool got damaged by the impact it had generated, causing loss of containment onto gas cloud (Picture 2).

**Why it happened**

A corrosion probe was installed in a section of line at a critical position of a section of line containing flammable hydrocarbons. An so-called pressure-balanced technique was used to retrieve the probe holder on-line. When the probe holder was locked off from its seat, pressure balancing over the holder was not fully achieved due to an existing faulty device in the existing piping leading to the balancing path. Although it was recognized that the tool did not require an expansion, the workers decided to continue the retrieval operation beyond what was specified in the manual provided with the tool by the OEM (Original Equipment Manufacturer), until the holder finally broke free from its threads, releasing the attached burner downwards with great force.

Offshore - Gulf of Mexico

**Incident Investigation & Root Cause Analysis Report**

Name of Incident: Thunderhorse Corrosion Coupon Plug Ejection  
Business Unit: Thunderhorse Performance Unit  
Location of Incident: Thunderhorse Mezzanine Deck  
Date of Incident: May 20, 2008

DRaft Report  
Issued: June 2, 2008

**TECHNICAL BULLETIN**

Ref: 2-03-004 Rev.0 Issued: 2/2009

Technical Bulletin	Bottom of Line Mechanical Retrieval	Prepared by:	Mark Wilson
Revision Area:	Utilities	Date:	1/28/09
Of interest to:	Mechanics Services	Approved by:	John Wilson
Region:	All Regions - Retrieval	Technical Authority:	
		Date:	2/18/09

**Introduction**

The Technical Bulletin has been prepared following a request from Icorr client Shell regarding an incident which took place on 14<sup>th</sup> April 2008 at the CDEGiga Den Helder 320 site in the Netherlands. The incident involved the on-line replacement of corrosion probes by Shell partly correctly with no isolation with Icorr. Icorr was provided with the official incident investigation report by Shell and was asked to comment on the incident and the potential for similar incidents in Icorr retrieval operations for Shell/CDEGiga in the UK.

Examples from the incident report provided to Icorr have been included and discussed within this technical bulletin. However certain details have been left out to preserve anonymity of the first party contractor involved. Where relevant, comments have been made on the content of the incident report by experienced Icorr retrieval engineers and by the Icorr Marketing Services Lead Technical Authority.

A further discussion is included on the report on Icorr retrieval operations in general and in particular for Shell/CDEGiga in the UK. Comments and recommendations as they relate to Icorr retrieval operations are also included.

The Technical Bulletin has also been revised to help and review by the Icorr QHSE Manager due to the safety impact of both the incident and retrieval operations in general.

**Discussion of Gas Isolator Isolator**

The following sections contain edited excerpts from the incident investigation report provided by Shell. Comments by Icorr retrieval engineers are shown in blue and are made on the basis of the report provided only, as there has been no other investigation into the incident by Icorr personnel.

**Description of corrosion probe retrieval equipment and process**

Figure 1 - L-Cat gas line and location of corrosion probe fitting



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## Impact of Incidents Across our Industry

- ◎ Fatality in May 2012 lead to many operators suspending online retrieval of intrusive devices
- ◎ The fatality occurred during the retrieval of an ER probe installed at the 6 o'clock position on a slug catcher line
- ◎ The access fitting had not been serviced in over four years
- ◎ Scaffolding was built to accommodate a technician, located directly below the retriever to help support the weight





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## The Challenge

- ⦿ High pressure mechanical access systems
- ⦿ Technique requires pressure balance for safe operation
- ⦿ Equalization channels on carrier plugs can become blocked
- ⦿ Back pressure pumps can be used to ensure balance but are not always available or practical



Blocked equalization channel on a hollow carrier plug



Blocked equalization ports on a solid carrier plug



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## How The Guard Works

- ◎ Remove the line of fire
- ◎ **Retrofittable**, auto deploying and built into the retrievers, replacing original components
- ◎ Our retrievers with the guard are lighter than other brands without the guard
- ◎ Low cost, low maintenance and do not require re-certification of technicians



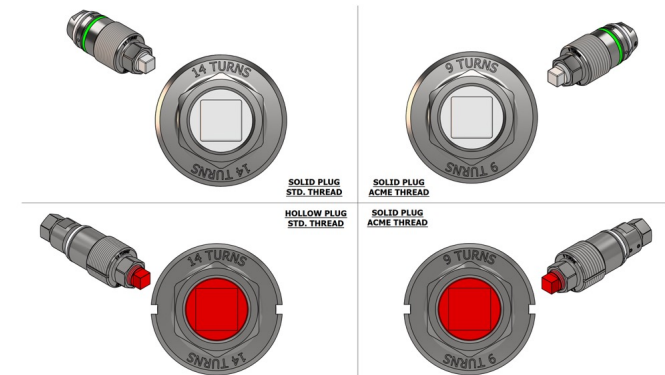


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## Success History – Incident Prevention

- ⦿ At the end of 2024, two separate incidents were reported where the guard had undoubtedly protected the lives of two technicians.
- ⦿ The first incident occurred when the technicians were changing out corrosion coupons at the 6 o'clock position. It was assumed that the access fitting contained a 'standard' mechanical 1-3/4 UN thread carrier plug which would require 14 turns to disengage from the access fitting, but it was in fact an ACME thread
- ⦿ This type requires only 9 turns to disengage, so when the technicians had not achieved pressure equalization in the retrieval tool at the 7th turn, they decided to continue to 10 turns and make an assessment to back pressure, or not. At the ninth turn, the carrier plug disengaged and the retriever suddenly pressurized and stroked at 2200psi. The guard stopped the movement of the outer barrel, and the job site was made safe with a near miss recorded.





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## Success History - Client Projects & Received Benefit

- ③ Use on 100% of all flowline locations enabling online monitoring
- ③ Previously unable to utilize telescoping tools due to debris blocking equalization ports
- ③ Recognized internally as embracing innovation and reducing risk
- ③ Guard engaged at 2200psi in November 2024 recorded near miss
- ③ Client feedback was exceptional, and the guard is now a new standard





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## SoL Fittings for BoL Monitoring

- ◎ Access Fittings for intrusive monitoring systems remain unchanged in over 70 Years.
- ◎ The preferred monitoring location in most installations is the 6 o'clock position and this poses multiple technical challenges that can also introduce risk.

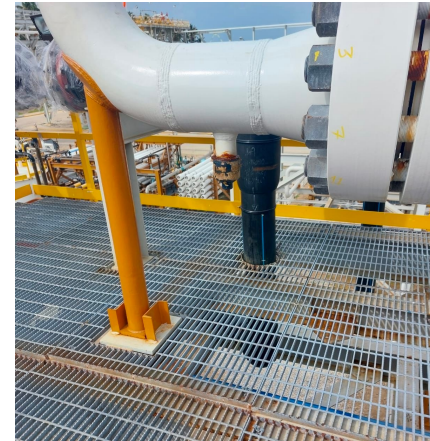


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## Clearance for retrieval

- ◎ The required clearance is often not identified prior to design and fabrication
- ◎ This can lead to fittings welded to the pipe that may never be serviced
- ◎ In onshore applications access pits may need to be designed and they can accumulate toxic gases and are not always practical or possible





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## Performance of 6 o'clock Access Fittings

- ⊙ Accumulation of debris in the 6 o'clock access fitting “trap”
- ⊙ Risk of retrieval tools not equalizing as per their design due to blockages
- ⊙ Majority of reported incidents ranging in severity from loss of containment to fatality, occur at 6 o'clock





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## Alternative monitoring points

- ③ 3/9 o'clock positioning often leads to monitoring the oil wetted surface and not the water wetted surface
- ③ 12 o'clock positioning leads to longer devices reaching to the bottom of the pipe
- ③ This creates wake frequency concerns and requires longer and heavier retrieval equipment and often the need for scaffolding

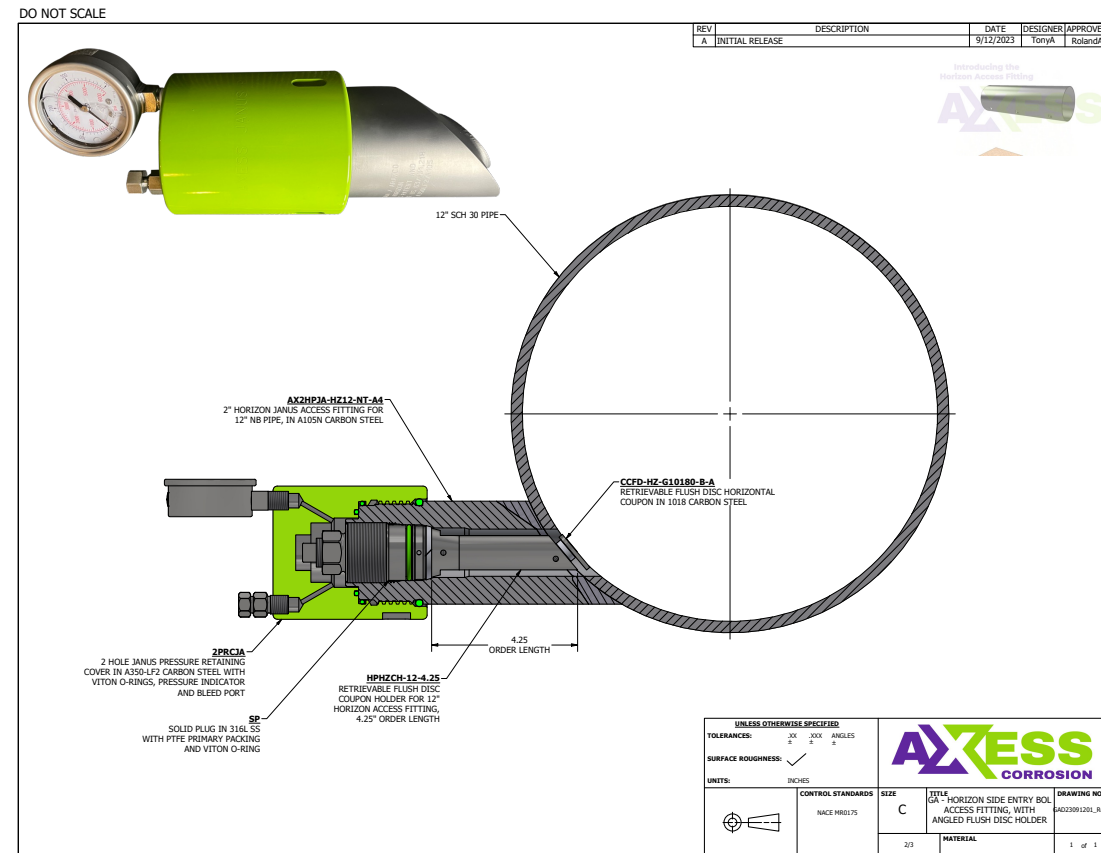


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## Technology Overview

- ⊙ A fitting designed for bottom of the line (BoL), monitoring from a side of the line (SoL) entry point
- ⊙ Does not have limitations with ground clearance
- ⊙ Less likely to accumulate debris and choke up the equalization ports
- ⊙ Can be welded using SMAW, hot-tapped and the "cookie" retained



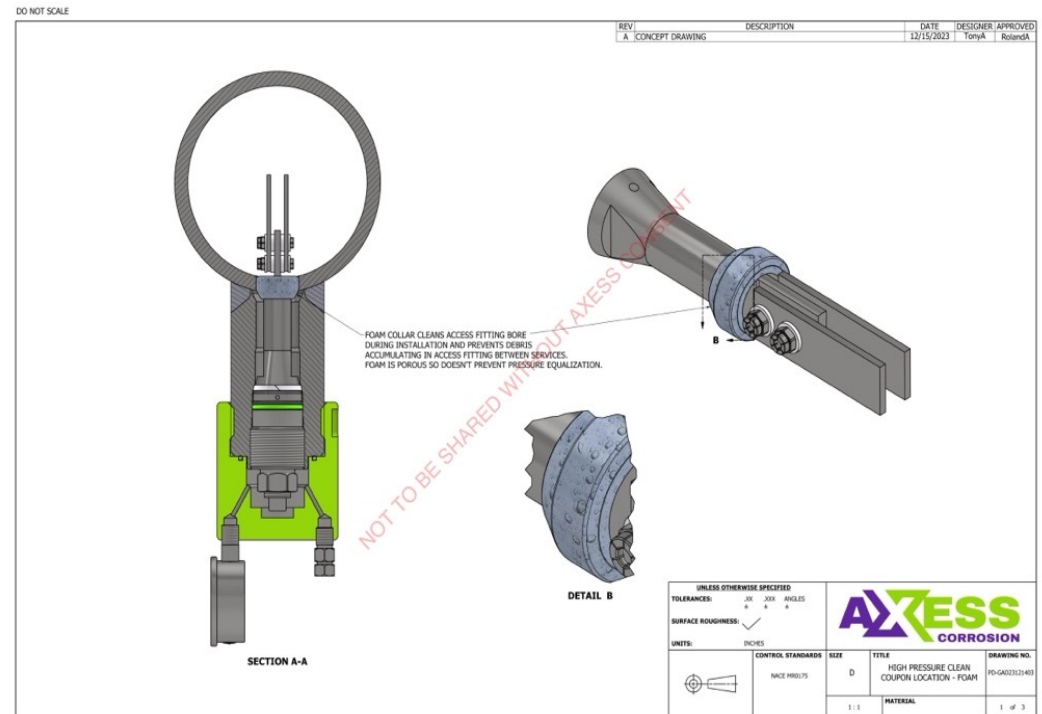


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## Debris Sweep and Protect

- ⦿ Applies to all welded coupon locations
- ⦿ Non-pressure sealing design allows for sweeping clean the internal access fitting bore during installation
- ⦿ Once installed, the sweep ring prevents debris from accumulating





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## What Sets Us Apart?

- ⦿ Designed and patented guards designed for all online retrieval tools, including legacy tools, to make them safer
- ⦿ Designed an improved access system to reduce the risk of exposure to people and environment of toxic gases
- ⦿ Minimal changes to existing procedures a dramatic impact on risk reduction HAZID/JSA/RA/ change dramatically
- ⦿ By removing risks, we can train operators to carry out the task safely and within time frames previously impossible to achieve
- ⦿ Winners of the AMPP Innovation Awards 2023
- ⦿ Winners of the MECOC Award 2025
- ⦿ Finalists of the AMPP Innovation Awards 2025

